



WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board Highlights - May 2023



The following information is intended to inform staff and community members of recent action taken by the Board. The information included in this brief is not intended to be complete and does not replace official Board minutes. Please see the Board agenda on the District Website for the complete action of the Board.

ENROLLMENT: 2,802 as of May 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT, DR. DREW RICCHIUTI:

The last remaining days of the 2022-2023 school year are upon us. The students and staff are preparing to finish the school year and are excitedly looking forward to the summer break.

The last month is filled with award ceremonies, student and staff recognitions, field trips, field days, and end of the year parties. The Board always looks forward to seeing the pictures and hearing about all the events.

On a Board of Education note, we would like to thank our inaugural student representatives, Ryann Iannotti and Yusuf Abouelsaadate, for their contributions to the Board of Education over the past school year. Both provided valuable insights from the student's perspective. They both have set the standards as to what is expected of the Student Representatives, and we look forward to the next Representatives.

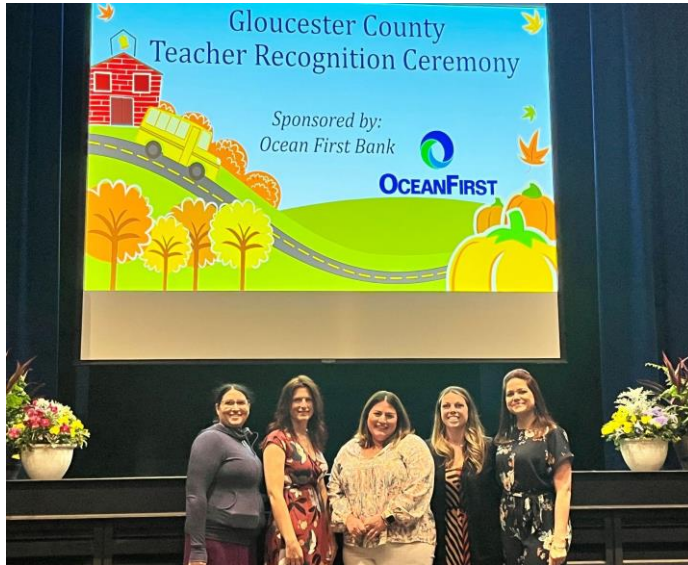
Hope everyone enjoys the upcoming festivities and is looking forward to summer break.

Dr. Drew Ricchiuti
West Deptford Board of Education President



STAFF RECOGNITION:

Congratulations to our Governor's Educators of the Year who were honored at the Gloucester County Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony/Luncheon on April 28, 2023.



Left to Right: Lindsay Freedman (HS), Jil Sperduto (MS), Amanda Peticari (RB), Jennifer Penney (GF), Adrienne Lokaj (OV)

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

SOARING EAGLES

The West Deptford Board of Education recognized the following individuals at their May Meeting. These students have been selected by their teachers for demonstrating outstanding character and for their commitment to their schools.



Red Bank Elementary School

- Reese Boucher
- Sloane Gottschling

Oakview Elementary School

- Phoenix Ivins
- Beril Pul

Green-Fields Elementary School

- Patrick Conway
- Brooklyn Miller

West Deptford Middle School

- Brianna Valentino
- Luca DiTizio

West Deptford High School

- Alexis Varela
- Sara Parra



Congratulations to our **WDHS TOP FIVE** Graduating Seniors



Brady Clark



Paige Duczowski



Jaci Gismondi



Ryann Iannotti



Gavin Zuzulock

DECA NATIONAL COMPETITION

In mid-May Jake Hartman and Yusuf Abouelsaadate attended the DECA National Competition in Orlando, FL, along with DECA Advisor, Ms. Newman. It was a great experience for all involved, and although we did not come back with a win, it was still a very fun trip. 20,000 other students were at the convention, the best of the best. In the end, trips like this are what DECA is all about, learning new things while having fun.

~Jake Hartman, DECA President



WDHS APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

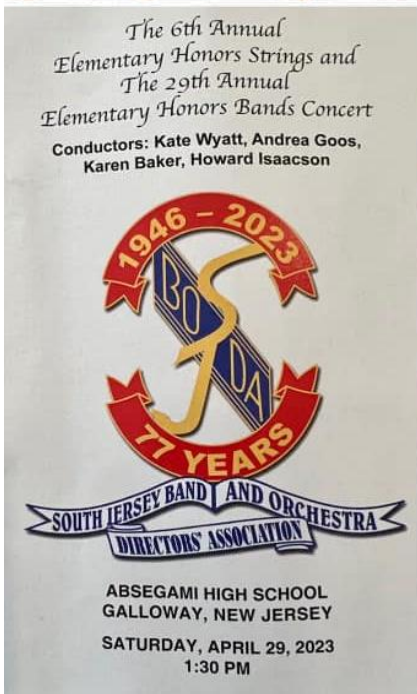


WDMS APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



WDMS BAND

Congratulations to our WDMS students for their fantastic performance in the 29th Annual South Jersey Elementary Honors Band Concert. They represented our school community very well!



OAKVIEW HARD HAT WORKERS



RED BANK CHARACTER KIDS OF THE MONTH - APRIL'S TRAIT: SELF-CONTROL



PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - Rehire Substitute Administrators
 - Rehire Substitute Teacher
 - Hire Substitute Teachers, Instructional Aides, Non-Instructional Aides, and Administrative Assistant
 - Hire WDHS Special Education English Teacher
 - Hire WDHS Math Teacher
 - Hire WDHS Administrative Assistant for Attendance & Discipline
 - Hire WDHS Assistant Athletic Director
 - WDHS Fall & Winter Athletic Coaches
 - WDHS Strength Training Coordinators
 - WDHS Music Department Stipend & Volunteer Positions
 - WDMS Special Education Instructional Aide
 - WDMS Health Office Aide
 - OVES LTR Special Education Teacher
 - OVES/RBES Instructional Aide
 - RBES Preschool Teacher
 - RBES LTR Teacher
 - RBES Preschool Instructional Aide

- ESY Special Education Aide, Substitute Teacher, & Student Volunteer
- WDHS Credit Completion Staff
- Hire District Homeless, Residency, & Truancy Coordinator
- ESL Testing Coordinator
- RBES & OVES Students First Coordinators
- Kindergarten Orientation Staff
- Change of Status:
 - Voluntary Transfer GFES Non-Instructional LPC Aide to WDMS Non-Instructional LPC Aide
- Resignations/Retirements:
 - Retirement WDMS Special Education Teacher
 - Resignation School Bus Driver
 - Resignation WDHS Special Education Instructional Aide

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:

- School Business Days
- Facilities Use
- Non-Resident Tuition Rates 2023-2024
- Laptop Lease Agreement
- School Bus and Equipment Lease
- Advertise for Bids
- Professional Services Contract
- Nonpublic Nursing Services Contract
- Local Wellness Committee Report 2022-2023 School Year
- Clinical Intern Placements - Rowan University
- LDTTC Practicum Placement - Stockton University
- Literacy Consortium
- IXL Professional Development
- WDHS Fall Athletic Schedules
- WDHS 7 on 7 Passing League
- WDHS National T-Wing Team Football Camp
- WDHS, WDMS, & GFES Field Trips
- Numerous Policies and Regulations
- Job Descriptions
- Leaves of Absence
- WDHS Summer Curriculum Projects
- Preschool Curriculum and Collaboration Planning
- Contract for Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Preschool Parent Art Show Night
- Summer Hours School Nurses

- Summer IEP Meetings
- Stipend for Non-Teaching Staff Members
- IXL Learning Math/ELA/Science PD
- Promethean Training
- NJASECD Annual Conference
- Advanced Degree

BUSINESS, FACILITIES, & FINANCE:

- The Board approved the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports, Transfers, Payroll, and Bills Lists.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Numerous other requests for approval for workshop attendance, student activities, and education items were approved by the Board of Education. These approvals will be reflected in the formal minutes of the meeting, which are available in the office of the Board of Education Secretary, as well as posted online after Board approval. The next scheduled meetings of the Board are a Special Meeting on May 24, 2023 at 8pm for Superintendent Interviews, followed by an Action Meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7pm in the West Deptford Middle School Library. The dates and times are subject to change.

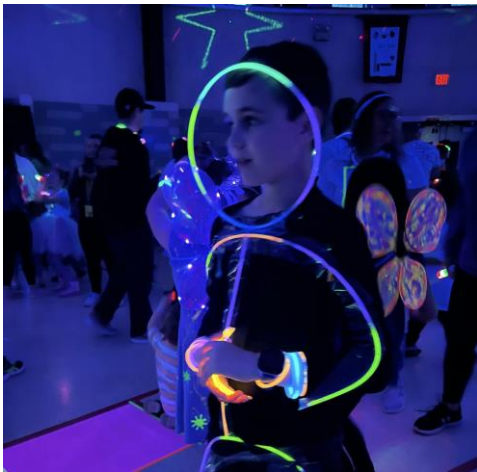
NOTES FROM THE NURSES

With May being declared Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Month in New Jersey, the school nurses would like to provide the information on the attached [flyer](#) regarding ticks to our district parents.

ELEMENTARY VIP & ME GLOW PARTY

Wow, wow, wow!!! Our WDES PTO really knows how to throw a party! The first VIP & me Glow Party was a huge success. Thank you to the PTO for your hard work and dedication to our kids! It was a blast!





TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY





TEDDY BEAR CLINICS

We had great days caring for our stuffed animals at the Vets in Training Teddy Bear Clinics!



WDMS DRAMA CLUB - SEUSSICAL, JR.

HUGE shout out to our Drama Club students and advisors on their amazing performance of Seussical, Jr.. There were over 350 people in attendance, filled with family, staff, and friends. Kudos to Mrs. Manzano, Ms. Donahue, and Mr. Gloster for their dedication and organization...the show truly was amazing! Also thank you to all the staff who were in attendance that also lent a helping hand wherever they could. The success of the show was a reflection of our one-of-a-kind students and staff at WDMS.



GREEN-FIELDS 4th GRADE SPRING CONCERT

It seems that GF's was the place to be on April 26 and 27. Yes...we transformed our All Purpose Room into a temporary concert venue, complete with a standing room only crowd. Mrs. Coccia, our wonderful elementary music teacher, did an amazing job of preparing our students for a fun night of songs through the decades. There was a happy vibe in the room on both nights, and it turns out that our students love to perform.

A special thanks to the Box of Doom band (Mr. Pappalardo, Mr. Corbitt, and Steve Wiggs) for playing along, and another big thank you to Mrs. Coccia for creating another wonderful memory for our students and their families. Well done!



CBI HAPPENINGS



West Deptford High School Community-Based Instruction Students toured the WD Police Department. They learned about jobs within the department, what type of job skills you need, and training. They even met K-9 Deca!



The CBI Students also toured the Verga Fire Company. Students could see the skills needed to become firefighters and even saw **Chief Ferriola** slide down the fire pole.



CBI students then brought their packed lunches to the **Red Bank Battlefield**.



RED BANK PRESCHOOL SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT

Our preschool students took part in their very own service-learning project over the past week. They decorated special planting boxes to hold flowers to deliver to our neighborhood families. The timing of this project was perfect because it was tied into Earth Day and learning all about taking care of the world around them and making it beautiful. On Monday, each preschool class walked through our Red Bank neighborhood and each child placed a flower on the doorsteps of our neighbors. The purpose of the flowers was to thank them for kindly sharing their neighborhood with us. Monday was a beautiful day, and we were even lucky enough to have some people come out to chat with the classes. They were so proud of themselves and the act of kindness they were spreading.



OAKVIEW STUDENTS LEARN SIGN LANGUAGE

On Monday, several classes had the opportunity to learn sign language from WHDS students that are in American Sign Language (ASL) IV. Their teacher, Mrs. Farreny, worked with her students to make mini lessons for our students so we can have this amazing hands-on experience. It was impressive to see our students using the signs later in the day, shortly after they were taught.



WEST DEPTFORD JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY IS BACK!

Please click [HERE](#) for information regarding West Deptford Police Departments' Junior Police Academy. The dates are June 26 - June 30, 2023.



CAFETERIA INFORMATION

- Please click [here](#) to view your school's cafeteria menu.
- All parents are encouraged to fill out a Free/Reduced Lunch Application. For more info, click [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

District-Wide Events

- 5/29 - Schools Closed - Memorial Day
- 6/12-6/16 - Early Dismissal **High School Only**
- 6/15-6/16 - Early Dismissal **All Students**
- 6/16 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Red Bank Elementary

- 5/25 - Field Day (rain date: 5/26)

Oakview Elementary

- 5/22-5/26 - Buddy Bonding Week
- 5/25 - Second Grade Field Trip - Academy of Natural Sciences
- 6/5-6/9 - Buddy Bonding Week
- 6/6 - Field Day (rain date 6/8)
- 6/8 - Parading Out of Preschool (rain date 6/9)
- 6/16 - WDHS Seniors Parade the OV Hallways 9:30am

Green-Fields Elementary

- 5/23 & 5/25 - Knowledge Bowl
- 5/24 - Preschool Field Day
- 5/25 - Grade 3 Field Day
- 5/26 - Grade 4 Field Day
- 5/26 - Preschool Field Trip to Field of Dreams
- 6/1 - Teddy Bear Clinic (PreK)
- 6/1 - MS Counselor Visits
- 6/12 - Parading Out of Preschool

Middle School

- 5/19 - 8th Grade Semi-Formal Dance 7-9pm
- 5/22 - 5th Grade LEAD Bowling Party
- 5/23 - 7th Grade Trip to Philadelphia
- 5/24 - Music Department Trip - Broadway

- 5/31 - Gifted & Talented Trip - Annapolis, MD
- 6/1 - 8th Grade Great Adventure Trip
- 6/2 - 5th Grade Field Day
- 6/5 - 5th Grade Awards Ceremony 8:15am
- 6/6 - 6th Grade Awards Ceremony 8:15am
- 6/7 - 7th Grade Awards Ceremony 8:15am
- 6/7 - 8th Grade Band Trip to GFES
- 6/8 - 6th Grade Field Day
- 6/8 - 8th Grade Awards Ceremony 6:30pm
- 6/12 - 7th Grade Field Day
- 6/13 - 8th Grade Social
- 6/15 - 8th Grade Closing Ceremony 6:30pm

High School

- 5/19 - Volleyball Marathon
- 5/25 - Spring Arts Festival & Concert
- 6/7 - Scholastic Honors Banquet 6:30pm Auletto's
- 6/12 - Senior Class to Dave & Buster's 12-3pm
- 6/13 - All Sports Banquet 6:30pm Adelphia's
- 6/14 - Senior Scholarship & Awards Night 6:30pm WDHS Auditorium
- 6/15 - Senior Picnic 12-3pm Green-Fields Swim Club
- 6/16 - Commencement 6:30pm WDHS Stadium
- 6/16 - Project Graduation 10pm-1:30am RiverWinds